


Remarks/Arguments:

Applicants have filed this continuation application to pursue claims directed to a modular prosthesis. Claims 54-60 are substantially copied from U.S. Patent No. 6,416,542, which issued to Marcade et al. on July 9, 2002. A copy of the Marcade patent is submitted herewith for the Examiner's convenience.

Independent claim 54 is directed to a modular prosthesis having a prosthesis portion, a proximal prosthesis portion, and joining means for intraluminally joining the distal end of the proximal prosthesis portion to the proximal end of the prosthesis portion. Claims 55-57 are dependent on claim 54. Independent claim 58 is directed to a modular prosthesis having a prosthesis portion, a proximal prosthesis portion, at least one distal prosthesis portion, and connecting means for connecting the proximal end of the distal prosthesis portion to the distal end of the prosthesis portion. Claims 59-73 are dependent on claim 58.

Support for claims 54-73 can be found in Applicants' Figs. 1A, 1B, 5-7, and elsewhere in Applicants' figures. Support is also found in Applicants' specification in the detailed description of the foregoing figures. For example, support can be found at page 22, line 17, through page 33, line 16; at page 39, lines 15-23; and at page 43, lines 20-26. Additional support for claims 54-73 can be found throughout Applicants' original specification and figures.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments: Abstract

U.S. Patent No. 6,416,542 to Marcade et al.

Dated: July 9, 2003

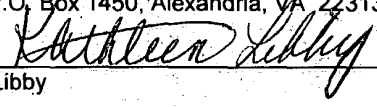
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